

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **AMEND** the claims as follows:

1.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A medical fluid delivery system, comprising: an implantable medical lead including a proximal port, a distal port, a lumen extending between the proximal port and the distal port and a distal fixation element adapted to secure the lead to a tissue site such that the distal port is in proximity to the tissue site;

a fluid delivery device including a tissue piercing distal tip, the device adapted to pass through the lead proximal port, through the lead lumen and through the lead distal port;

means for adjusting a position of the device distal tip with respect to the lead distal port; and

~~The system of claim 1, further comprising~~ a locking mechanism adapted to hold the fluid delivery device in a stable position within the lead lumen and including a lead-clamping portion and a fluid delivery device-clamping portion.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the means for adjusting the position of the device distal tip comprises a threaded interface formed between the lead-clamping portion and the device-clamping portion of the locking mechanism.

6. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein:

the implantable medical lead further includes a proximal connector pin formed about the proximal port; and

the locking mechanism is affixed to the connector pin via a set-screw.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the set-screw forms an electrical coupling between an electrical probe and the connector pin.
8. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the device-clamping portion of the locking mechanism includes a chuck mechanism for engaging the device.
- 9.-24. (Cancelled)
25. (New) A locking mechanism for selectively fixing the position of a fluid delivery device relative to the position of lead through which the fluid delivery device extends, the locking mechanism comprising:
- a lead clamping portion having a distal opening, said lead clamping portion configured to secure the lead within the distal opening; and
 - a device clamping portion attached to said lead clamping portion and having a lumen therethrough adapted to direct the fluid delivery device into the lead, said lead clamping portion configured to secure the fluid delivery device within the lumen.
26. (New) A locking mechanism according to claim 25 wherein said device clamping portion comprises:
- a body; and
 - a securing mechanism disposed within said body and threadably coupled thereto.
27. (New) A locking mechanism according to claim 26 wherein said body includes an inner wall, and wherein said securing mechanism comprises at least one flange configured to contact said inner wall and frictionally engage the fluid delivery device when said body is rotated relative to said securing mechanism.

28. (New) A locking mechanism according to claim 27 wherein said securing mechanism is fixedly coupled to said lead clamping portion.

29. (New) A locking mechanism according to claim 25 further comprising a depth adjustment portion coupled to said device clamping portion and configured to adjust the position of the fluid delivery device relative to the position of the lead when the lead is secured within the distal opening and the fluid delivery device is secured within the lumen.

30. (New) A locking mechanism according to claim 29 wherein said depth adjustment portion is rotatably mounted between said device clamping portion and said lead clamping portion.